

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 EUR-12

SCCT-01 /076 W

----- 074181

O 011343Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4421

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRANIMMEDIATE

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 6296

TEHRAN FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF

SUBJ: ISRAELI ASSESSMENT OF RABAT SUMMIT

1. SUMMARY. ISRAELIS REMAIN CONCERNED RE SIGNIFICANCE OF RABAT SUMMIT CONFERENCE FOR PROSPECTS OF MAINTAINING MOMENTUM TOWARD ACHIEVING NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS, PARTICULARLY WITH EGYPT AND JORDAN. ISRAELI PRESS ALSO CALLS ATTENTION TO POTENTIAL DANGERS OF PUBLIC REJOICING AND SUPPORT FOR PLO AMONG POPULATION OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ANTICIPATION OF MAJOR POLITICAL ADDRESS ON POST-RABAT MIDEAST SCENE TO BE DELIVERED IN KNESSET NEXT WEEK, PRIME MINISTER HABIN MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON RABAT CONFERENCE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SPEECH TO MANAGEMENT CENTER CONFERENCE IN TEL AVIV,

OCTOBER 31.

3. BEGIN OFFICIAL GOI TEXT. AS FOR THE RABAT CONFERENCE:
WE HAVE ATENDENCY TO FALL INTO MOODS, AS IF THAT CONFERENCE
AD RESULTED IN MAJOR SURPRISES. THE ALGERIA CONFERENCE,
FOLLOWED BY THE JOINT STATEMENT OF EGYPT, SYRIA AND ARAFAT,
AD PREPARED THE GROUND SUFFICIENTLY TO ELIMINATE THE
ELEMENT OF SURPRISE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN RABAT.
TWO QUESTIONS ARISE IN THE WAKE OF THE RABAT SUMMIT:
WILL EGYPT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE, AFTER RABAT, MOVING TOWARDS
PEACE--NOT ALONE, BUT SEPARATELY, AS SHE DID ON OCCASION
OF THE SEPARATION AGREEMENT? THIS IS THE CENTRAL
QUESTION: WORDS ARE ONE THING, ACTION--ANOTHER. WE
MUST NOT DISCOUNT WHAT IS BEING SAID, BUT THE REAL PROOF
MOMES LATER, WITH HARD FACTS.

4. THE SECOND QUESTION: IS JORDAN THE PARTNER FOR
NEGOTIATIONS ON ALL MATTERS OF POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN
EAST--OR IS THERE NO JORDAN. HERE, TOO, WE MUST NOT JUMP
TO FINAL CONCLUSIONS. IN A WAY, THE QUESTION WAS ANSWERED
IN RABAT, ALLEGING THAT THE TERRORISTS SHOULD BE THOSE PARTNERS.
END TEXT.

5. ISRAEL'S ANSWER: THERE ARE NO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. WE HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO THEM.
SHOULD THE ARAB WORLD DECIDE THAT JORDAN SHOULD NOT BE A
PARTNER (FOR TALKS), THEN THERE IS NO-ONE TO TALK WITH ABOUT
PEACE ON OUR EASTERN BORDER. THIS APPLIES NOT ONLY TO THE
TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS APPEARING UNDER THEIR OWN NAME,
BUT ALSO TO TERRORISTS WEARING HUSSEIOIAN MASKS. END TEXT

6. FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON, IN SPEAKING AT DINNER FOR
FRENCH FM SAUVAGNARGUES OCTOBER 31, MADE FOLLOWING
REMARKS UNDERLINING GOI REFUSAL TO CONSIDER
NEGOTIATING WITH PLO.

7. BEGIN OFFICIAL GOI TEXT. THE MIDDLE EAST NOW
STANDS AT A FATEFUL CROSSROADS. THE FORCES PRESSING FOR WAR
AND THE ELEMENTS PREPARED FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT ARE
COMPETING FOR HEGEMONY IN THE ARAB STATES' POLICIES,
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AND IT IS NOT CLEAR WHO WILL GAIN THE UPPER HAND...

8. AT THE PRESENT JUNCTURE IN THE MIDDLEEAST, IT IS ALL THE
MORE IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE AND STRENGTHEN THE MODERATE
ELE-
MENTS, WHO ARE PREPARED TO EMBARK UPON THE PATH OF
NEGOTIATION AND POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, AND TO REFRAIN FROM
ANY TALK OR ACT LIKELY TO BOLSTER THE POSITION OF THE

ESTREMISTELEMENTS STRAINING FOR ANOTHER WAR--AMONG THE MOST EXTREME OF WHICH, IN BOTH DOCTRINE AND DEED, IS THE ORGANIZATIN STYLING ITSE F THE "PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION." SUFFICE IT TO READ ITS "CHARTER" AND TO RECALL THE CHAIN OF ACTS OF SLAUGHTER AND TERRORISM PERPETRATED BY THE TERRORIST GROUPS INCORPORATED IN THE NLO,TO REALIZE THAT TERRORISM IS THE VERY ESSENCE OF THE PLO. END TEXT.

9. ISRAELI PRESS REMAINS INTENT ON DISCERNING USG REACTION TO RABAT CONFERENCE.PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE TO "JORDAN OR PLO" AT OCTOBER 29 PRESS CONFERENCE HAS ATTRACTED SOME ATTENTION BUT HAS BEEN HANDLED IN VERY LOW-KEY FASHION. NO ISRAELI OFFICIALS HAS PUBLICLY COMMENTED ON EITHER PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OR SUBSEQUENT WASHINGTON COMMENTARY ON IT. HAARETZ (MARGALIT FROM WASHINGTON) TYPIFIES PRESS ATTITUDE BY NOTING "MOST OBSERVERS ARE AGREED THAT THIS WAS A SLIP OF THE TONGUE, BUT THAT ONE COULD HARDLY EXPECT THE PRESIDENT TO ADMIT THAT IN SO MANY WORDS". MOST PREVALENT ISRAELI PRESS DESCRIPTION THUS FAR OF USG REACTION IS "CONFUSED".

10. DOMINANT ISRAELI PRESS VIEW IS THAT RABAT CONFERENCE BODES ILL FOR MIDEAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, PLACING NEW AND SERIOUS OBSTACLES IN PATH OF SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TO FIND BASIS FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN REGION, AND THAT DANGER OF WAR HAS INCREASED. PRESS IS ALSO SERIOUSLY CONCERNED WITH EXAMPLES OF ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC REACTIONS NN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES RE RABAT (FOR EXAMPLE, SOME ENTHUSIASTIC EAST JERUSALEMITES WERE CARRIED ON ISRAELI TV) AND IMPLICATIONS FOR ISRAELI SECURITY. PRESS ALSO ADMONISHES GOI OT TO WAVER IN ITS OPPOSITION TO DEALING WITH PLO.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, PEACE TALKS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TELAV06296
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740313-0211
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741177/aaaacnsd.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 NOV 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <13-Nov-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI ASSESSMENT OF RABAT SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005